



# Nebraska Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities

## *DD Tips*

Summer 2014

### Just Like Home

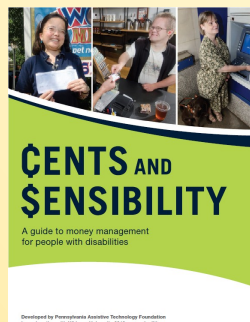
New federal Medicaid rules set standards, effective March 2014, to ensure that Medicaid-funded home- and community-based services (HCBS) are provided in settings that are non-institutional in nature. The rules apply to residential settings such as houses, apartments, and residential care assisted living facilities. The new standards also apply to non-residential settings such as adult day care programs.

"Just Like Home: An Advocate's Guide to Consumer Rights in Medicaid HCBS" can be found on the National Senior Citizens Law Center website. This [guide](#) provides consumers, advocates and other stakeholders with information regarding multiple facets of the new standards, including consumer rights in HCBS, and the guidelines for determining which settings are disqualified from HCBS reimbursement. The guide is based on the federal rules and subsequently issued guidance, and will be updated as further information becomes available.

### Cents and Sensibility

Developed by the Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation in conjunction with Widener University, the second edition of "Cents and Sensibility," a financial education booklet has been made available.

This [booklet](#) is a guide to money management, and specifically designed for people with disabilities. The interactive booklet covers topics like budgeting, how to save, borrowing money, credit, assistive technology, and more!



*"Everyone needs financial skills to make smart decisions about money. As a person with a disability, there are some additional things you need to know to be sure you can get what you need to live independently."*

### State Council

The most recent State Council meeting was held at the Highlands Golf Course on May 16, 2014. The next meeting will be held on August 15, 2014.

Learn about the [Nebraska Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities](#)

by visiting our website.

## Power in Numbers: A Profile of American Voters with Disabilities

The Youth Transitions Collaborative is a group comprised of regional and national organizations focused on helping young persons and young veterans with disabilities build paths to independence. They have conducted a study regarding voting patterns to better understand the political views, advocacy trends and partisan affiliation of people with disabilities and chronic conditions.

Results of the survey clearly show evidence of the power and motivation of the disability community and their readiness to act on critical issues, regardless of political affiliation.

View survey [results](#).



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## Health Reform

The Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) is a network of interdisciplinary centers advancing policy and practice for and with people with developmental and other disabilities, their families, and communities. Explore the many resources on the AUCD [Health Reform Hub](#) website to answer your questions about the health reform law and its impact on people with disabilities and their families.

Buttons provide quick links to Affordable Care Act (ACA) summaries and tools to understand the law, up-to-date implementation facts and more.

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## Guide for Performing Arts Settings

"Sensory Friendly Programming for People with Social and Cognitive Disabilities" is a guidebook developed by The Kennedy Center for individuals with sensory, social, and learning disabilities who may have difficulty attending a performing arts production without supports. The guidebook is intended to assist in identifying qualities, resources, and adaptations to consider in creating a relaxed and friendly theater experience. Access the guidebook: [The Kennedy Center](#)



*"Society often has expectations for how people ought to behave in certain settings. When people with hidden disabilities act differently in a social situation, they are at risk for not being welcomed in community or public places."*

# Advocacy ATLAS: Accessible Tools for Leadership and Advocacy Success

Genetic Alliance, in partnership with Family Voices and Parent to Parent USA, launched a new online resource for individuals with special healthcare needs and their families. "The Advocacy ATLAS: Accessible Tools for Leadership and Advocacy Success" features over 250 tools and resources to help new and experienced advocates communicate their needs around services, support, and access. View a variety of advocacy topics in the [toolkit](#).



## Who is Perfect?

If the mannequins housed in storefront windows were any indication of our actual body shape, we would all be curveless sticks with no belly buttons. But humans do not fit these uni-sized proportions; we come in all shapes and sizes.

As part of a new campaign called "Because Who Is Perfect? Come Closer," the Swiss charity Pro Infirmis sought to expose the public to a wide range of body types through clothing store mannequins. The subjects: a woman with severe scoliosis, another with a deformed spine, a one-legged athlete, a man with brittle bone disease, and a man with shortened limbs. The physically disabled people had models cast of themselves and put in storefronts for the public to see. Together, the five models were the subjects of director Alain Gsponer's [short-film](#) about the project.

## Nebraska Contacts

The [Center for Parent Information and Resources](#) has a comprehensive list of Nebraska State agencies related to disabilities along with publications and other information in English and Spanish.

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|--|--------------|
| • DHHS Helpline  | 800.254.4202 |
| • Hotline for Disability Services                            | 800.742.7594 |
| • <a href="#">Disability Rights Nebraska</a>                 | 800.422.6691 |
| • <a href="#">Munroe-Meyer Institute</a>                     | 800.656.3937 |
| • <a href="#">The Arc of Nebraska</a>                        | 402.475.4407 |
| • <a href="#">Statewide Independent Living Council</a>       | 402.438.7979 |
| • <a href="#">PTI Nebraska</a> (Parent Training Information) | 800.284.8520 |
| • <a href="#">Assistive Technology Partnership</a> (ATP)     | 888.806.6287 |
| ♦ <a href="#">AT4All.com</a>                                 |              |
| ♦ <a href="#">Housing.NE.gov</a>                             |              |

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